

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

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INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

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SUBJECT: POLITICAL PARTIES - DISAPPEARING ACT

1. OF THE MORE THAN 30 POLITICAL GROUPINGS WHICH APPEARED AFTER
APRIL 25 COUP IN PORTUGAL ONLY FOUR SHOW ANY SIGNS OF LIFE:

A. MOVIMENTO DEMOCRATICO DE ANGOLA (MDA): COALITION OF EXTREME
LEFTIST (PLUS COMMUNIST) WHITES, MOSTLY YOUNG. GENERALLY
REGARDED AS FRONTING FOR MPLA. SEVERAL EFFORTS TO HOLD PLENARY
SESSIONS IN LAST TWO WEEKS HAVE FAILED SINCE TOO MANY MEMBERS ARE
ON VACATION OR OTHERWISE CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE. NEXT PARTY
MEETING POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

B. LIGA NACPENAL AFRICANA (LNA): MESTIZO AND BLACK "CULTURAL"
ORGANIZATION WHICH ALSO FRONTING FOR MPLA. LATELY LNA HAS BEEN
ATTRACTING INCREASING NUMBERS OF YOUNG WHITE ULTRA-LIBERALS,
PRESUMED TO BE SAME GROUP AS MDA.

C. MOVIMENTO POPULAR DA UNIFICACAO DE ANGOLA (MOPUA): CREATED
BY ERSTWHILE WHITE SEPARATISTS IN SOUTH (NOVA LISBOA), WITH
CHAPTERS IN MAIN URBAN CENTERS INCLUDING LUANDA. NOW SPLIT INTO
THREE RIVAL FACTIONS, DIFFEJENCES AMONG THEM APPARENTLY PERSON-
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ALITY CONFLICTS RATHER THAN IDEOLOGICAL. MOPUA WHILE WHITE ES-

POUSES MULTIRACIAL INDEPENDENT ANGOLA WITH UNDEFINED LINKS TO PORTUGAL. MOPUA'S POLITICIZING IN LUANDA LIMITED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO DEFACING CITY WALLS WITH INITIALS.

D. UNA (NTO BAKO): LEADERS NOW INCLUDE ANGOLAN-BORN WHITES AND A FEW SOUTHERN BLACKS, BUT APPARENTLY NO MESTIZOS. UNA IS MAKING EFFORT TO DIVEST ITSELF OF BAKONGO IMAGE, WHILE SEEKING (THROUGH SECRET CONTACTS NOW UNDERWAY) TO ATTRACT FNLA SYMPATHIZERS AWAY FROM HOLDEN ROBERTO. UNA'S PLATFORM ALMOST IDENTICAL WITH SAVIMBI'S AS RECENTLY OUTLINED IN LUANDA PRESS (LUANDA 536). UNA APPEARS TO HAVE AT LEAST SOME TACIT SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT, BUT THIS MAY MERELY REFLECT FACT IT IS ONLY MODERATE BLACK PARTY OPENLY OPERATING IN LUANDA AT PRESENT.

3. REMAINDER OF ONCE BRAVE GROUPINGS HAVE ALL BUT DISAPPEARED. MDIA, PRPA, PCDA (CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS), PRO-CIVICA, CENTER-RIGHT, ETC. ARE TOTALLY QUIESCENT. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS WHEN ASKED INVARIABLY EXPLAIN THAT THEY ARE "AWAITING DEVELOPMENTS." (FOR LISTINGS OF THESE MORIBUND OUTFITS, SEE LUANDA 306, 353, 365.)

4. MOST NOTABLE AMONG THE NON-EXISTENT (OR HIDDEN) ARE LOCAL EQUIVALENTS OF THE PPD OF PORTUGAL, SOCIALISTS, OR COMMUNISTS (ALTHOUGH LATTER TWO FOLDED INTO MDA). THERE IS NO ANGOLAN EQUIVALENT OF MOZAMBIQUE'S FICO, AND NO PERSONAGES WITH KIND OF FLAIR DEMONSTRATED BY MME SIMIAO.

5. SEVERAL WOULD-BE AFRICAN POLITICIANS (INCLUDING ONE UNABLE TO CONVERSE IN PORTUGUESE - ONLY FRENCH) HAVE APPROACHED US FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. UNA ALSO SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE IN USG'S INTEREST TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL BACKING, SCHOLARSHIP AID, ETC., AS ALTERNATIVE TO FNLA AND AS COUNTER TO MPLA.

6. IN SUMMARY, POLITICAL SITUATION REMAINS AS CLOUDY AS EVER, WITH EXTREMISTS SHOWING SOME STRENGTH, BUT NOT OPERATING IN OPEN.
BRIGGS

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